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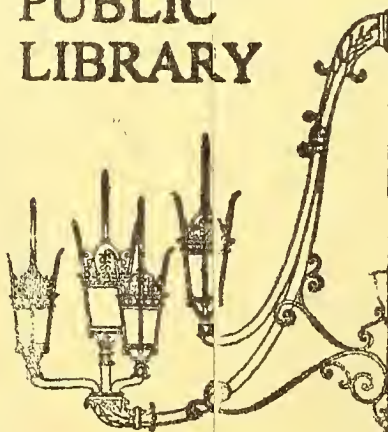
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TOUR de GRAVES

1995



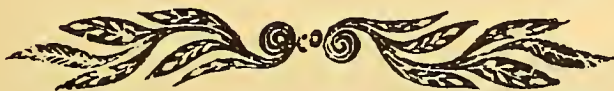
Historic Burying Grounds Initiative

An Annual Event

Presented by the

**Boston Parks & Recreation
Department**

Thomas M. Menino, *Mayor*



Sponsored in part by



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The Event

Kick off Spring and celebrate "*Greening Month*" with the Boston Parks and Recreation Department's Sixth Annual **Tour de Graves**, a 25-mile bicycle tour of Boston's historic burying grounds and neighborhoods.

The event will begin at 10:00 am at the *new* Boston Common Visitors' Information Center (on the Tremont Street side of the Common) on Sunday, May 7, 1995.

Registration

A \$10 donation is requested. Bicyclists are urged to have their entry forms mailed by April 30th.

The Course

The **Tour de Graves** begins at the Boston Common, in downtown Boston. The sites visited may include:

- ◆ Central Burying Ground, Boston Common (1754)
- ◆ South End Burying Ground, Washington Street (1816)
- ◆ Eliot/Eustis Street Burying Ground, Roxbury (1630)
- ◆ Walter Street Burying Ground, Roslindale (1713)
- ◆ Forest Hills Cemetery, Forest Hills (1838)
- ◆ Mount Hope Cemetery, Roslindale (1851)
- ◆ Dorchester North Burying Ground, Upham's Comer (1634)
- ◆ Copp's Hill Burying Ground, North End (1659)
- ◆ Phipp's Street Burying Ground, Charlestown (1630)
- ◆ King's Chapel Burying Ground, Downtown (1630)
- ◆ Granary Burying Ground, Downtown (1660)

The Perks

In addition to an expertly-guided tour of Boston's historic burying grounds and neighborhoods, a 48-page guidebook is included in the registration fee. A picnic lunch by the lake at Mount Hope, one of the highlights of last year's program, will be included again.

The Mission

The proceeds of the **Tour de Graves** go directly toward the restoration and conservation of Boston's sixteen historic burying grounds. The Historic Burying Grounds Initiative (HBGI) is a public/private cooperative venture administered by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department. The mission of the HBGI is the comprehensive restoration, ongoing conservation, and heritage interpretation of Boston's burying grounds. According to a 1986 Master Plan, the restoration of these 16 sites is a \$6.1 million endeavor. Thus far, nearly half of those dollars have been raised through public and private sources.

Education is an integral part of the HBGI's endeavor. This educational mission is achieved through innovative public programming and special events. The Parks Department's goal is to help Boston-area residents and visitors gain a greater appreciation, understanding, and respect for these important historic places. The **Tour de Graves**, a nationally-lauded educational program, is an exciting recreational opportunity geared to bring bicyclists of all levels of skill and interest together for an afternoon of fun.

T-Shirts

100 % cotton, *long-sleeve* t-shirts with the original **Tour de Graves** logo (featured on front of brochure) are available for purchase at \$10 per shirt. T-shirts can be ordered via this registration form or at the registration table, as supplies last.

The Rules of the Road

Special bicycling equipment is not required to participate in the **Tour de Graves**. Although bicycle helmets are not required for adults, they are strongly recommended. Helmets are, however, required for children and young adults under the age of 16. The Massachusetts "rules of the road" will be distributed to participants and will be obeyed at all times during the event.

Boston's Historic Resources

Boston has the greatest number of burying grounds of any municipality in the United States. Dating as early as 1630, they are some of the oldest and most significant historic resources in the country. Seven of Boston's historic sites date to the 1600s, seven to the 1700s, and three to the 1800s. People come from near and far to visit these cultural landscapes to read the well-versed epitaphs, admire the carved artwork, and/or locate ancestors. Home to more than 16,000 slate and marble markers and monuments, Boston's burying grounds contain some of the finest examples of art and iconography in the country.

These sites are the final resting places of many notable Americans and innumerable noble Boston citizens. These distinguished figures include such folks as Paul Revere, John Harvard, Elizabeth "Mother" Goose, and Phillis Wheatley. Regardless of the level of fame, each of the people buried in these sites made significant contributions to the process of building Boston; their stories are recorded eloquently in stone.

The **Tour de Graves** route changes every year. Bicyclists are led by veteran event coordinator, Ken Withers, and escorted by a troop of volunteer marshalls. Participants are able to park their bicycles and peruse the sites. Brief tours of each site are given by members of various Friends groups and HBGI staff and volunteers.

For More Information

For more information, please contact the Historic Burying Grounds Initiative at (617) 635-4505 ext. 6516 Monday - Friday between 9:00 and 5:00.

The **Tour de Graves** is a *rain or shine* event. If in doubt about the weather, please call the HBGI line on the morning of the event for recorded instructions.

Entry Form ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(Please use one form per person)

Name : _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number: (____) _____

____ Yes! I want to participate in the **Tour de Graves**.
(\$5 of the registration fee is tax-deductible.)

____ Yes! I want to purchase ____ *long-sleeve t-shirt(s)*. (at \$10 per shirt)

____ I cannot participate in the spring **Tour de Graves**, but would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to the Historic Burying Grounds Initiative. My contribution is in the amount of \$ ____.

Total enclosed: \$ _____

____ Please add my name to the Historic Burying Grounds Initiative's mailing list.

Please make all checks payable to the:
Fund for Parks and Recreation

and mail to the:

Boston Parks and Recreation Department
1010 Massachusetts Avenue, 3rd Floor
Boston, Massachusetts 02118

Attention: **Tour de Graves**

Historic Burying Grounds Initiative

Boston Parks and Recreation Department
1010 Massachusetts Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02118

